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LETTER DATED 4 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that United States aircraft continued their violations of Iraqi national airspace for purposes of reconnaissance and provocation during the period 25 to 30 April 1993.

25 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 16 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 10,000 metres, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 10 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 9,000 metres, centred on Nasiriyah, Busayyah, Qurnah and Qal'at Salih.

26 April 1993

(a) Northern region: No hostile air activity was reported in the region on this day.

(b) Southern region: 46 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, centred on Qurnah, Qal'at Salih, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Samawah, Khidr, Salman, Busayyah, Ushbayjah, Jalibah and Artawi.

27 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 29 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 8,500 metres, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 6 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 8,000 to 9,500 metres, centred on Ushbayjah, Artawi and Lasaf.

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28 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 39 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 10,000 metres, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 32 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 8,000 metres, centred on Samawah, Nasiriyah, Basra, Lasaf and Busayyah.

At 1045 hours an American TR-1 aircraft carried out hostile reconnaissance over Salman, Samawah and Busayyah at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres. At 1548 hours, the aircraft was last sighted over Ansab flying in the direction of Saudi Arabian territory.

29 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 24 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 3,000 to 9,000 metres, centred on Amadiyah, Zakho, Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar, Dohuk and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 52 sorties flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and altitudes of 7,000 to 9,000 metres, centred on Busayyah, Artawi, Qal'at Salih, Basra, Qurnah, Shatrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah and Jalibah.

At 1040 hours an American TR-1 aircraft carried out hostile reconnaissance over the southern region at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres. The aircraft was last sighted at 1523 hours, flying in the direction of Hafr al-Batin in Saudi Arabian airspace.

30 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 16 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 11,000 metres, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah and Zakho.

(b) Southern region: 44 sorties flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 11,000 metres, centred on Basra, Nasiriya, Samawah, Salman and Busayyah.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative